

cold air from more easterly directions is tempered by the Atlantic Ocean. The inland waters of Vance County tend to limit extremes of temperature to a small extent. The temperature drops below freezing on an average of more than half the days of winter, but usually rises above the freezing point in the afternoons.

In the winter months, some snow can be expected. The average annual snowfall in Vance County is approximately 7.5 inches of snow and sleet combined. Individual snows are of small quantity and seldom exceed more than one to two inches. These snows generally remain on the ground for no more than two days.

Summer days are warm in Vance County, but nights cool rapidly, so that the early morning temperatures average below 68 degrees even at the hottest time of the year. Daytime heat is rarely extreme and temperatures of 100 degrees are scarce. They have been recorded in June, July, August and September, but several years may pass without any 100 degree weather.

Precipitation is usually adequate and well distributed throughout the year. The driest months of the year are October and November, while the heaviest months each average between three and four inches of rain or melted snow. Most winter precipitation comes as a result of moving low pressure storms, while summer rainfall is mainly the result of thundershowers. Autumn rainfall is sometimes increased by the movement of a tropical storm through the eastern part of the state or offshore waters, but the passage of such a storm near enough to Vance County to cause damaging winds is rare. For further information about the climate of Vance County, consult Climates of North